



In re Patent Application of  
ESPOSITO CORCIONE ET AL.  
Serial No. 10/696,723  
Filing Date: October 29, 2003  
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**In the Abstract:**

Please replace the Abstract section on page 17 of the specification with the following rewritten Abstract:

**PARALLEL CONFIGURATION SYSTEM FOR HYBRID VEHICLES**

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

A parallel configuration system for hybrid propulsion vehicles is provided. The drive thrust is distributed between an electric engine and an internal combustion engine through a transmission system delivering the torque of both engines to the vehicle wheels. The internal combustion engine ~~is~~ may be a diesel engine operating at steady state at an operation point having ~~the highest~~ a high efficiency and with the consumption and emissions being reduced.